WORKS IN PROGRESS

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Olympia, WA -- 500 Attend Peace Vigil on Eve of Attacks

Tristan Baurick

Cold night air and sporadic rain did not deter an estimated 500 Olympians from a candlelight vigil for peace at Sylvester Park on October 7; the day U.S. bombs began to fall on Afghanistan.

Olympia peace supporters began planning the vigil on September 11, soon after the world learned of attacks on New York and Washington D.C., predicting an extensive armed retaliation on suspected terrorists and the nations in which they reside. Publicized primarily by word of mouth, the alternative press, flyers, and e-mails, vigil attendees knew to meet at Sylvester Park at 7 P.M. following any U.S. assault.

'No More Killing', 'No More Blood', and 'Demand Peace' were a few slogans written on signs. But the hundreds of somber, candle-lit faces best summed up what the crowd was collectively feeling. As the numbers began to swell just after 7, attendees began to form a hand-in-hand ring around the entirety of Sylvester Park. For twenty minutes, the human chain was silent.

Regrouping around the park's central stage, the crowd gathered for songs and speeches.

"I don't know about you," said a woman identifying herself as Anna, "but I woke up today to see G.W. declare war.....and it broke my heart."

A trumpeter played 'Green Sleeves' and afterwards, a woman with a guitar led a song to the tune of "Down By The Riverside". "I'll lay my sword and shield down by the riverside, I ain't gonna study war no more," sang the crowd.

But the hundreds of somber, candle-lit faces best summed up what the crowd was collectively feeling.

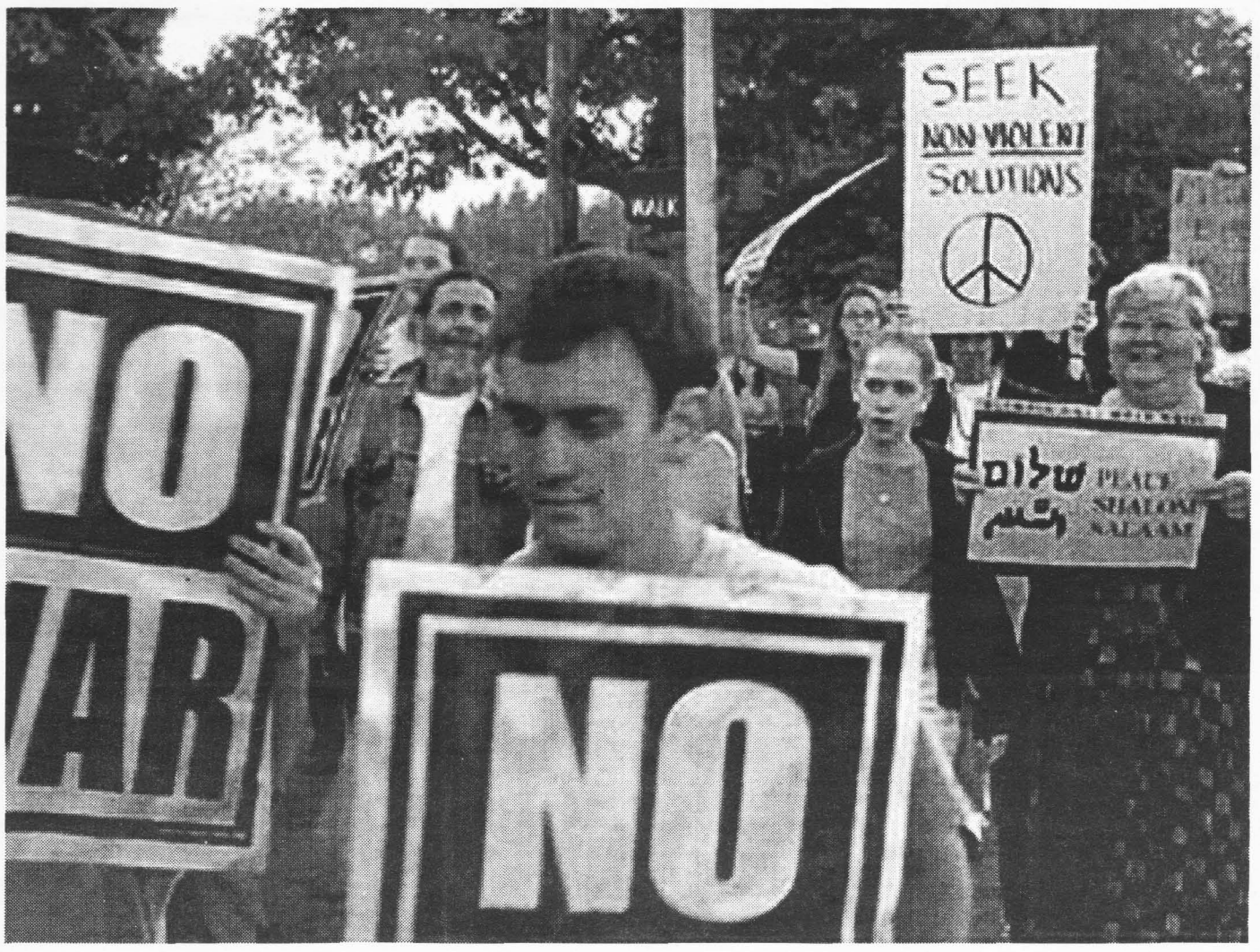
Howard Rosenfeld, a volunteer with Media Island, took the stage saying, "Polls say 90 percent of Americans support retaliation. That baffles me to hear that, because everyone I talk to says 'No! We don't want this!" Rosenfeld cited another poll, conducted outside the U.S. and involving a multitude of nations, which showed 70 to 80 percent feel retaliation is wrong. Rosenfeld urged the crowd to seek out other perspectives besides those found in mainstream American media. "Check other sources of information," he said, "and form your own opinions."

Other speakers stressed the importance of individual relationships to shape a movement toward peace. "To create change we need to talk with our parents about how we feel, and with our cousins, aunts and all the people we have a heart connection to," said one young woman.

Evergreen professor and former Israeli resident Simona Sharoni's testimony was especially charged. "Think of the mothers in Kabul," she said, with her infant daughter held tight, "Think of Afghani mothers huddled with their babies in their houses as the bombs fall." At this, Sharoni's daughter let out a cry and the crowd cheered. "That's right," Sharoni said. "She knows it - you need to raise your voice. You need to speak up!"

After a near hour of speeches and songs, the vigil spilled into the streets. Wandering down Washington, State, 4th, and Capitol Way the crowd made their way through downtown and finally up to the Capitol Campus.

Speakers at the event said more anti-war rallies, teach-ins and forums are in the works and will continue to be held as military actions abroad continue.



Will we have Democracy NOW! at KAOS?

by Sandy Mayes

Since its inception in 1996, "Democracy NOW!," a national radio program hosted by Amy Goodman, has been an invaluable resource in the struggle for social justice nationally and globally. It currently airs from 9 to 10am, Monday through Friday on KAOS (89.3 FM), the community radio station that operates from The Evergreen State College. The program provides access to information, analysis and voices which are essentially locked out of the corporate media, including most of what passes as "public" broadcasting. In this way, the mission of "Democracy NOW!" perfectly parallels the stated KAOS mission of "giving special attention to the interests of people historically ignored by the media."

Indeed, "Democracy NOW!" quickly became the most highly supported program at KAOS. The show has consistently been the number one draw for pledges and dollars during the station's biannual pledge drives. So, it should have come as no surprise to anyone that, when "Democracy NOW!" was abruptly discontinued on Sept. 10 and replaced by "The BBC News," the station was flooded with unhappy phone calls and e-mail messages from the listening community.

KAOS Explains

In mid-August, the "Democracy NOW!" team began producing the program away from its usual location in the Pacifica-owned WBAI studio. (To learn more about this move and the history behind it, visit www.pacificacampaign.org.) The Pacifica Radio Network blocked transmission of these daily programs from their satellite. The "Democracy NOW!" team had to find other avenues for broadcasting the show, which is now produced off-site and called "Democracy NOW! in Exile."

Instead of the current "Democracy NOW! in Exile" programming, Pacifica began to provide old, archived editions ofbeen to help KAOS Management muster the will to clear these hurdles by 1) rallying support from the community and 2) offering various forms of technical and logistical assistance.

(Continued on page 5)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

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Correspondence, articles, art, and photographs are always welcome. Please, when possible, put articles on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disk (text preferred) or via e-mail. Artwork and photos should be camera-ready/ black & white.

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Proofreading Meeting

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Sound Exchange Needs Your Help

What's been happening with Sound Exchange (our local currency system)? One way to find out is to volunteer to take part in a telephone blitz to contact all the members. Cascadia Hours in Portland/Vancouver have asked us to join forces with them so we all have a wider net of trade and barter opportunities. Do our members want that? We need to ask them! Our listings are not current enough to print and share at this time and individual contact is the only way to get current and expand our options. If you have a few hours to spare and want to have some fun meeting people, please call Gail Sullivan at 352-2428. She'll set you up with a standardized schpeel and a list of members to call. Local Currency still makes good sense.

In Search of the Big Picture

Please join us **Tuesday, October 16 7pm at Traditions Fair Trade**

This series of gatherings for Video & Discussion presents: "The Bombing" - documentary searching for answers in the aftermath of the tragic 1997 suicide bombing by 3 Palestinian youths in Jerusalem. Through interviews with the families of victims & bombers, the film attempts to offer insight into the psychology & idealogy that perpetuates such violence in the Middle East. Emotionally gripping, this film documents the phemomenon of suicide bombings, the psychology of extremism, & the larger Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

Come join us for informative videos & conversation, 3rd Tuesday monthly. You help choose the topics from a variety of progressive programs & documentaries made by people with messages not otherwise heard.

This free (donations accepted) event is sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, an organization "committed to active nonviolence as a transforming way of life & as a means of radical change." www.wwfor.org

Info: 709-0795 or 709-9527

-TCTV series, "In Search of the Big Picture" every Sunday 10pm.

-TCTV series on peace, social justice, non-violent social change, & environmentalism, by Fellowship of Reconciliation Mondays 1:30pm & Thursdays 8:30pm.

Clean Up New Parks

Sunday, Nov. 4th from 1-4pm

Join high school students, volunteers and community members in battling the English ivy that currently overwhelms the native habitat of this 37-acre lot. The newly purchased Roling Fields and Mission Creek parks are located on Olympia's Eastside.

Meet at the north end of the park at 1pm to begin clearing land, removing ivy, weeding, and doing other fun outdoor work. Grab your shovel, work gloves and olter your life and local community. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

To get to the park from downtown, head east on 4th ave and take a left on Puget St. Take a right at the dead-end on to San Francisco Ave and a quick left onto Bethel St. Make a right on Etheridge Ave and right again onto Fir St. The park is straight ahead.

Call Rochelle Gause with the YMCA Earth Service Corps for info: 357-6609.

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NOVEMBER 2001

Bush Jr. is just passing gas, Caspian Sea natural gas that is

→ Coal and oil dependent Pakistan, India, and China (40% of the world's population) are in the market for lots of relatively clean-burning natural gas.

→Turkmenistan has plenty of natural gas and is eager to sell it to Asian countries.

→ Just by chance, Unocal (U.S.) and Delta (Saudi Arabia) were leading a consortium until 1998 to build a 1300 km pipeline from Turkmenistan to Pakistan.

→Unfortunately, though the consortium had all its ducks in a row, it couldn't get the $1 billion backing to build the pipeline. Half the pipeline would have run through Afghanistan whose government is considered to lack stability, a security risk.

→Now the pipeline could have instead run through Iran which happens to have a stable government. "Most parties support this route", except, of course, the U.S. Iran has lots of natural gas as well, and the U.S. would like to keep "Iran from regional energy infrastructure developments." However, if the money were right (and it is), it would be difficult even for the U.S. to stop it, unless, by some miracle, Afghanistan should suddenly have a change of government.

Sources: Caspian Gas Exports: Stranded Reserves in a Unique Predicament by Ira B. Joseph, Baker institute at Rice University, 1998; Pipe Dreams by Brooke Shelby Biggs, *Mother Jones*, October 12, 2001.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
If Osama bin Laden did not exist, it would be necessary to invent him. For the past four years, his name has been invoked whenever a US president has sought to increase the defense budget or wriggle out of arms control treaties...Now he has become the personification of evil required to launch a crusade for good: the face behind the faceless terror. -- George Monbiot, *London Guardian*				**1** **1765**: Stamp Act is levied by British Crown. Colonists lower flags to half-mast as proclamations authorizing the act are read publicly	**2** **2000**: Ralph Nader visits Seattle; warns against voting for the lesser of two evils **2000**: Squaxin dedicate their new museum	**3** **2000**: Viacom announces purchase of Black Entertainment TV **2000**: Baby elephant born at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle
4 **1999**: WA Supreme Court rules arrest of vehicle's driver doesn't allow search of personal items of passengers not under arrest	**5** **2000**: December issue of Nature Neuroscience magazine contains research report linking Parkinson's to pesticide rotenone	**6** **2000**: FDA asks drug companies to remove cold medications containing PPA; it puts young women especially at risk of strokes	**7** **1841**: Slave revolt on the Creole **2000**: Nation begins wait on who won election; Gorton/Cant-well race too close to call	**8** **1995**: National Research Council states raising salmon in hatcheries is pushing many native salmon species to extinction	**9** **1813**: Creek War: Andrew Jackson destroys Talladega village, killing more than 500 **2000**: Bush Jr. leads election by 229 votes	**10** **1917**: 41 women from 15 states arrested outside White House for picketing **2000**: Bush has 4 vote lead in New Mexico
11 **1918**: WWI ends with nine million soldiers dead, twenty-one million wounded, and seven million taken prisoner or missing	**12** **1996**: Ernst Home Centers announces the closing of all its stores in January 1997 laying off 60 employees in the Olympia area.	**13** **1909**: Cherry, IL: 259 miners killed in explosion at St. Paul mine. In 5 years there have been 84 catastrophes, 2494 miners killed	**14** **2000**: Bush Jr.'s Florida lead now 300 **2000**: Puget Sound Energy suspends six workers for union activities	**15** **2000**: Gorton's lead over Cantwell widens to over 8,000 **2000**: Protesters demand Staples sell only recycled products	**16** **1999**: Feds say remove lower Snake dams best way to save salmon **2000**: Coke pays $192.5 million in a racial discrimination suit	**17** **1997**: Teamsters President Ron Carey is declared ineligible to run in the new election; accused of diverting $700,000 "
18 **1999**: Crude oil prices climbed to highest level since Gulf War **2000**: WA state Greens hold convention at South Bay Grange	**19** **1996**: Salvation Army admits homeless men who have been barred **2000**: Peruvian President Fujimori announces resignation	**20** **2000**: Gorton's lead over Cantwell at 1,263 **2000**: World Bank commission reports that dams do more damage than good	**21** **2000**: Pacific Northwest Newspaper Guild votes to strike in Seattle **2000**: Florida court allows hand recounts to continue	**22** **2000**: Miami-Dade county stops hand recount **2000**: Cantwell wins by 1,953 in final count; goes automatic recount	**23** **2000**: Gore's lawyers state that he will not concede defeat and will contest the election results from Miami-Dade County	**24** **2000**: Supreme Court agrees to hear challenge to hand counts **2000**: Seattle newspaper strikers begin publishing strike paper
25 **1915**: Dormant KKK revived in Atlanta, by Col WJ Simmons **2000**: The UN Climate conference at the Hague collapses	**26** **1997**: State Supreme Court rules police can keep all files on unsolved crimes secret **2000**: Florida certifies Bush the winner	**27** **1999**: Ulster Unionist Party council votes for power-sharing with Roman Catholics **2000**: Gore contests election in court	**28** **1997**: Study published in Science says greenhouse gases threaten warm surface waters and may send Europe into a deep freeze	**29** **2000**: WA Dept of Ecology adopts shoreline rules for rivers, lakes, marine waters **2000**: Post-Intelligencer hires scabs	**30** **1999**: Oil giants Exxon & Mobil merge **2000**: Thurston Co. Court temp. blocks Initiative 722 in Olympia and other jurisdictions	***This crusade ...is going to take a while.*** **Bush Jr**

An Interview with Amy Goodman

Democracy in the Most Serious of Times

By Megan Davis

Nationally renowned radio journalist Amy Goodman, host of Democracy NOW!, visited Olympia on Oct. 6th for a single whirlwind day of attendance at the COPRED peace conference. What follows is an interview we did that day, while sitting in the afternoon sunshine of TESC's Red Square.

Megan: First off I want to ask you about your experience in New York City. I know that you were there during the September 11th attacks, and that you and some producers chose to remain in your studio for a few days in order to provide coverage and analysis of the events. Could you talk about what that was like?

Amy: We were very close to Ground Zero actually, and one of the people who runs the Firehouse [the community television studio in which Democracy NOW! is recorded] ran up and told us about the attacks. I had already heard the boom but I didn't know what it was. We were in an attic, so we couldn't directly look out the window. We just kept broadcasting for hours, not even knowing if anyone was taking the broadcasts. At that point we were just watching the television and reporting what was being reported there.

Then, because the Firehouse had opened its doors to people who were coming from the World Trade Center, offering water and phones so they could call their families, we started to bring people upstairs and interview them about what had happened. When we went off to broadcast I went outside, and saw the terrible devastation. I walked a block or two and watched Building Seven of the World Trade Center come down. It had been on fire for hours, and then it just collapsed all at once within seconds. I saw people running. And then I went back to the Firehouse because authorities had surrounded the area and were evacuating it. I didn't want to be swept up in that because we felt a responsibility to keep the broadcasts going.

I certainly had the experience to know that at a time like this Washington would be gearing up really quickly for some kind of retaliation. And I felt it was key from the very beginning to broadcast first, what had happened, the people who had been victims, and second, the voices of dissent that would certainly be silenced at a time like this. So that's what we were doing.

We stayed at the Firehouse for three days, and at night I would go out. Everything was closed up and all the roads were blocked off. Cars were covered in this kind of silt or ash. People were walking around covered in ash, shell-shocked, and the air was heavy with the smell of burning metal and tires.

Soon the photographs were going up all over, posted on billboards and light posts, of the missing. It was starting to rain. I was walking around wearing one of those sort of surgeon's masks to protect us from the asbestos, fiberglass and whatever toxins were in the air — even bone dust, because, I mean, we're talking about just massive destruction and more than six thousand people just dead, entombed there.

As I saw these pictures going up, I thought of the photographs of people that are put up all over the world. You know, the Mothers of the Disappeared in Argentina hold pictures of their loved ones, and in Guatemala and El Salvador and Iraq and East Timor, the Kurds in Turkey and Iraq. Now people here know, in a way that no one should ever know, the terror that people all over the world have experienced. We have joined those victimized populations. It is horrible. It is unacceptable. This is the evil face of terror.

I think that victimized populations around the world know what these kinds of attacks are about, and they don't feel vengeful — they feel sorrow. And I think that's why we have to stop terrorist attacks everywhere, and unfortunately the U.S. has been responsible for supporting more militaries, and more repressive regimes around the world that have killed more people than anything people in this country could ever fathom, because the media doesn't report it.

"Go to where there is silence and say something."

-- Amy Goodman

Megan: You know there's a group in town called KAOS Listeners for Democracy NOW! that has been pressuring KAOS management to keep airing the program since its being banned from WBAI. KAOS was actually not playing Democracy NOW! for a couple weeks, citing technical problems, although it seems to me the problems have been more political than technical. What has the Democracy NOW! experience been like during the program's exile, with KAOS and other college and community stations?

Amy: Almost all the affiliates have continued to run us. We're still on the Pacifica satellite, made possible by the first Pacifica station KPFA, where the satellite used to be based. So they continued to broadcast and stand with us. It's not a surprise, with the direction that Pacifica management has gone, that they've tried to silence us, but even the board has recently voted that we should be broadcast. And management is defying that board.

These are unprecedented international broadcasts that are airing on radio, public access TV, dish network channel 9415, and the Internet at WBIX.org and webactive.com. I think only in that way, of bringing together all of independent media, can we actually be a force that the corporate media like CNN and ABC-NBC-CBS, who are building this drumbeat for war, that they have to deal with.

And I think that it's this unprecedented collaboration that the establishment putting pressure on Pacifica wants to shut down. So I thank KAOS for continuing to air us. KAOS, like the rest of the affiliates, can air us live every day. I just have to work out with them why they're doing it a day late.

Megan: I think it's one of those political things.

Amy: We live in very difficult times. And so I really thank people here for fighting for Democracy Now! in all senses — the name of the program, the program itself, and for what that means.

I think there's a very clear tendency that in times of war the media cheerleads around the government. It serves as the advanced troops for the military. And that's not what our role should be -- we have to be a counter force.

Megan: What's your analysis of the current situation at Pacifica? And what do you think should be done at this point?

Amy: The management has, unfortunately, engaged in a year of incredible harassment against the Democracy NOW! team, because they were afraid of the repercussions of firing us and so they tried to get us to resign. But in this day and age, it's just too important to keep the airwaves open for dissident voices and so we've refused to resign.

Given the calamity that the current management has created, they've got to go. The new head of national programming, Utrice Leid (who was first installed as general manager of our station, WBAI), has got to be fired summarily. This is a person who issued an edict after the World Trade Center attacks, that programmers were not to talk about the World Trade Center, but instead just play healing music and poetry.

The executive director Bessie Wash has presided over a purge of the Pacifica network, where scores of people — the most political programmers — have been banned and fired. She has also allowed the hemorrhaging of listener funds, pledged in good faith for community radio, to go to high-priced lawyers and vicious public relations firms that have engaged in the vilification of the dissident movement that represents the majority of Pacifica listeners around the country.

And it's for these reasons that they've got to resign.

Megan: And that's just the management that you're talking about, not the Board of Pacifica.

Amy: Yes, that's management. The Board has also engaged in that type of activity, but the reason they've got to go is because they have to be democratically elected and chosen from the listening areas of our stations, and represent the affiliates. That's the long-term democratic restructuring that has to take place.

Recently they just packed the Board with five new people. The minute they would voted on a person, that person would join the Board in an illegitimate phone call meeting, and would vote on the next person. This was two weeks ago. It's just incredible. But, you know, the more they disregard any democratic or legitimate process, the more they lead to their own demise.

And then they allowed WBAI to go off the air after September 11th for days at a time, when we needed the kind of critical analysis Pacifica is known for. Mind you, we did not have an antenna on the World Trade Center. No, we have an antenna on the Empire State Building. So there's no excuse for why they went off the air. And even when they came back on the air, management issued this edict that we couldn't talk about the World Trade Center. I mean, you didn't even have corporate media doing that.

This latest move was just completely preposterous. We have a responsibility to the millions of people who built this network for fifty years to continue airing the voices of dissent in these militaristic times. And I thank the listeners of KAOS, who have ensured that KAOS is part of the original mission of Pacifica and its affiliates, in opening the airwaves to that dissent.

Megan: What are the Democracy NOW! team's plans for the future?

Amy: Well, immediately, Pacifica should just start airing Democracy NOW! without censoring it. That's our demand. We are in exile because we were forced out of WBAI, but the critical issue isn't whether we're in the physical facility or not. In this day and age, you can broadcast from anywhere. The critical issue is that the network allow the return of the banned and the fired and restore the programming that has become vital to its listening audience. For example, Wakeup Call, which I co-hosted with Bernard White for eight years, until they fired us right after the management coup. And numerous other shows including, most recently, when Anthony Sloan (our technical director for Democracy NOW! who also does a show on WBAI,) was just banned from the station last week.

When the banned and the fired return, and we continue to broadcast, Pacifica will be vibrant. The listener base will grow, support will come pouring in, and Pacifica can be restored to its original mission of being a voice for the marginalized, which very much in this

(Continued page 14)

(KAOS, continued)

The Station Manager has frequently stated that he has eighty other shows to worry about and doesn't have the resources to make "Democracy NOW!" a priority. "This isn't The Amy Station," he recently said, on air. Our position is that there is absolutely no journalistic work that even begins to compare with "Democracy NOW!" and that, as the most popular program on KAOS, and especially at this time of world crisis, it certainly warrants the extra effort.

Rallying Support

The first undertaking of KLDN! was to present, on Sept. 14, a list of requests to Jack Kemp:

1) That KAOS air Amy Goodman's daily live broadcast of "Democracy NOW! In Exile".
2) That KAOS provide the financial and technical resources so that her live show can be run on KAOS, Monday through Friday at 9 A.M.
3) That KAOS management request to Pacifica that Amy Goodman be immediately returned to the air and be able to produce the show at WBAI under the conditions she has specified.
4) That until "Democracy NOW! in Exile" can be put on the air live, KAOS play it at a regular daily time even if it is a day late.
5) That KAOS inform Pacifica that it will drop their contract for all Pacifica programming if Amy Goodman is fired.

On Sept. 24 Jack provided his response to our five requests which was posted in-full on the KLDN! website message board (www.morelater.com/kaos). Among his comments were reiterations regarding technical hurdles. He also summarizes and characterizes the Pacifica/Democracy NOW! conflict as "the most vitriolic mud slinging imaginable" on both sides. "Amy's personal and work issues and grievances should not be a KAOS-FM priority." Jack also stated that KAOS had already planned to drop the Pacifica contract, which it did at the end of Sept.

The most surprising statement from Jack was his negative response to our most simple, easily do-able request: to play the show a day late. He simply cited "limited resources." All prior statements regarding technical and logistical difficulties had referred to getting the "live" feed in time for the 9am airing. So, it was hard to understand why "limited resources" would prohibit the day-late option.

KLDN! members began to bring our five requests to the community in the form of a petition. Calls and e-mail continued to flow into the radio station complaining about the loss of "Democracy NOW!" and the inadequacy of the "BBC News" as a substitute.

Then, on Sept. 28, there was a turning point in the controversy. The two hosts of the Friday afternoon talk program "Free and Fair on the Air" spontaneously invited Jack into the studio with them to discuss the issue and take calls from listeners. He accepted. The calls poured in. The exchanges were heated and passionate. The primary demand made over and over by callers and the two programmers was to air "Democracy NOW! in Exile" a day late until it could be brought back live. One of the programmers even brought to light the fact that an engineer at the college had been producing and offering disks that could be aired one day late. Jack was intractable. His position was that the program was "irrelevant" the next day. The calls continued. People argued that the kind of analysis on "Democracy NOW!" is absolutely relevant, much more so than the cricket scores in Liverpool.

When the programmers argued that the KAOS listening majority was making itself heard, Jack dismissed the callers as "a handful of very loud individuals." When they referred to the evidence of the program's popularity during pledge drives, he responded that we need to look beyond the current listenership to the future, potential listenership (in Lewis County and Fort Lewis) which will be accessible to the station when the new antenna is operating. Referring to "Democracy NOW!" supporters: These are merely "the current listeners...there is more to our potential audience than this." Yet, he also argued that KAOS is primarily a student-funded station and implied that the student audience is what really matters. Continuing in this contradictory pattern, while stating that he didn't have the resources to air "Democracy NOW! in Exile," he also reasoned that with his help Evergreen students could produce programming every bit as good as that being produced by "Democracy NOW! in Exile." "Why not?" he asked.

This went on for nearly two hours. At the end of the program, Jack's position was unchanged; the program would not be aired, even a day late.

And yet, on Monday morning at 9am, many of us turned on our radios and were surprised and delighted to hear, without explanation, Friday's edition of "Democracy NOW! in Exile." On Oct. 2, Jack posted an explanation on the KLDN! website: "Democracy NOW! in Exile" would be offered on a week to week TRIAL basis. The specific criteria for keeping or losing the program was not clearly stated, nor has it been since.

The members of KLDN! decided that this was a partial success. We continued to gather petition signatures and proceed with planned events. From that point on, our most immediate objective has been to secure a commitment from KAOS to KEEP "Democracy NOW!" on the air, in Exile or otherwise.

Technical and Logistical Assistance

Since our earliest encounters with KAOS Management, KLDN! members have offered various forms of assistance toward the goal of getting "Democracy NOW! in Exile" back on the air. Various people have spoken in person or communicated via e-mail suggestions for solutions to the technical problems, including referrals to technicians working on behalf of the program for that very reason. In a meeting on Sept. 17, I asked them to let us know what kinds of tasks we could do around the station to lighten the load. I followed that offer up with an e-mail. On the KLDN! website message board, are communications regarding technical solutions. Even Amy Goodman, when she was in town, offered technical advice and referrals. So far, KAOS has not responded to our offers. (Amy also commented that KAOS is the only affiliate she knows of which is reporting technical obstacles to airing the show live.)

Inconsistent Standards?

"Democracy NOW! In Exile" is not, by far, the only program that has had technical problems at KAOS. Recently, KAOS has been unable to air certain editions of "Free Speech Radio News" and many other program due to a variety of problems. But these programs are not suddenly dropped, nor are they put on "trial" when these problems occur.

When a caller on "Free and Fair" talked about how much she missed "Democracy NOW!," Jack asked, "Are you listening to things like 'Loafers Glory,' 'Radio Nation,' 'Alternative Radio'... programs that continue to be delivered reliably, thoughtfully, every time?"

But at a Programming meeting on Oct.15, the Program Director listed a number of programs that have problems. For instance, "There's always problems with Loafer's Glory." "Loafer's Glory" has "the worst production quality I've ever heard ... It's wildly unpredictable." And yet, on air, Jack Kemp twice cited it as an example of excellent programming. What seems to be missing is a measurable, transparent, consistent standard for responding to technical problems with programming.

Amy in Olympia

On Oct. 6, Amy Goodman was in Olympia as a keynote speaker and to receive an award for Social Courage at the Conference for Global Justice and Peace on the Evergreen campus. Knowing of and supporting our struggle to get and keep "Democracy NOW! in Exile" on KAOS, she happily agreed to speak at another event, immediately following her keynote speech. This event was designed specifically to rally support for "Democracy NOW!"

Between the two events, approximately 700 people came to hear Amy speak that day. She was twice received with standing ovations.

There isn't space in this article for much more than brief impressions of Amy's day in Olympia. She was on her feet most of the day, speaking about current events and how narrowly the corporate media defines those events. She tirelessly, willingly and generously engaged in lengthy Q and A sessions and one on one interviews. She declined offers for breaks.

At day's end, she joined about forty members of KLDN! for a potluck dinner. After spending considerable time interacting with people one on one, she joined us in a circle. Once again, she tirelessly responded to a barrage of comments and questions, primarily concerning how to create and sustain democracy in media.

Finally, it was announced that she had about 45 minutes before she had to leave for her red-eye flight back to New York. Someone asked her if she had a preference as to how to spend that time. "Well, yes, actually. If you don't mind, I'd like to interview you."

She pulled a small tape recorder from her bag. In a full but hushed room, she gently coaxed several people, one by one, to sit in the chair beside her and talk into the microphone about the various forms of work they do on behalf of creating peace and justice. In so doing, she honored the work of each of those individuals while doing what she always does: facilitating a sense of empowerment and connection with the global community.

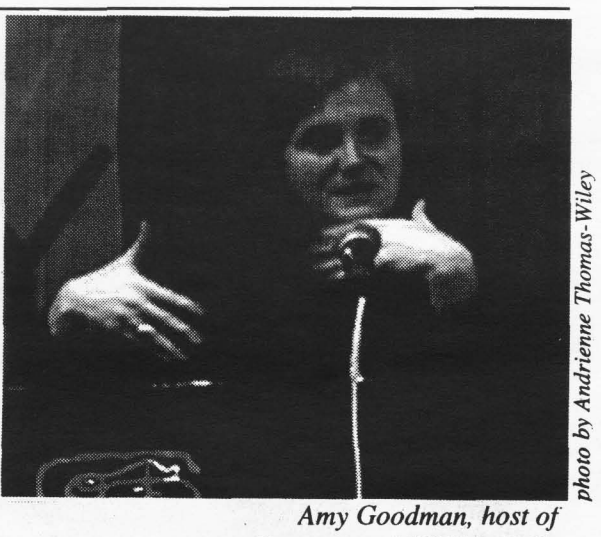

photo by Andrienne Thomas-Wiley

Amy Goodman, host of Democracy NOW! in Exile

The interviews were aired on Hour Two of "Democracy NOW! in Exile" on Oct. 9. Although the second hour of "Democracy NOW! in Exile" is not currently being aired on KAOS, archived editions can be found on-line by going to the KLDN! website and clicking on the "webactive" link..

As citizens of a democracy we need this resource and we have a right to expect our community radio station to do whatever it can to make it available to us.

The Petitions

A rally supporting "Democracy NOW!" was held on campus on Oct. 11. It was attended by 100-150 people. A group of about seventy people marched with drums and banners to present copies of the roughly 1100 petition signatures to Jack Kemp, Tom Mercado, and Les Purce. The response will be posted on the website.

What you can do to keep Democracy NOW! in Exile on the air

The most important thing you can do to keep "Democracy NOW!" on KAOS is to make yourself heard on this issue. Tell Jack Kemp and especially his director, Tom Mercado, that you want a commitment to "Democracy NOW!" For a shortcut to e-mailing Jack and Tom visit the KLDN! website <www.morelater.com/kaos>.

The KLDN! meet every Thursday at Bread and Roses at 7:00pm. You can also attend the weekly Programming meetings with KAOS staff which are open to the public. These meetings are on Mondays at 10:30am in CAB 315.

Since the terrorist attacks on the east coast, "Democracy NOW! in Exile" has been producing two hours of programming per day. KAOS currently only carries the first hour (one day late). KLDN! will be scheduling group viewings of the video-taped two-hour editions of "Democracy NOW! in Exile" at Traditions and on the Evergreen campus. Edited selections from these tapes can also be seen on TCTV from 11pm to 1am Thursday nights, with expanded broadcasts planned for the future. Visit the website often for updates.

Final Thoughts

There are many excellent progressive journalists and publications. But no single body of work or media resource comes close to comparing with the daily live programming produced on "Democracy NOW!" As citizens of a democracy we need this resource and we have a right to expect our community radio station to do whatever it can to make it available to us.

Sandy Mayes has lived and worked in Olympia and has been a devoted KAOS listener and supporter for 17 years.

Mumia Watches As Government Proceeds Toward Legal Lynching

Wip News Service

A hearing regarding Mumia's case was scheduled and held on August 17 in Philadelphia. At that time, Mumia's current lawyers filed a motion to reopen Mumia's case in a new PCRA (Post conviction relief act) hearing in Pennsylvania state court, citing various new evidence which had not previously been introduced at the state court level. A previous PCRA hearing had concluded in 1997 with the notorious Judge Sabo rejecting all new defense claims and evidence presented. His ruling was rubberstamped by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in 1998, thus sending Mumia's case to the federal courts where Judge Yohn is required to rule on a 29 point Habeas Corpus petition filed in 1999.

Although the August 17 hearing was largely uneventful, it was marked by a notable absence: Mumia Abu-Jamal, the defendant! Although Mumia's right to be present at his hearing had been affirmed and ordered by the judge, various police and prison officials managed to make sure that Mumia would not be present. This was just one more slap in the face by the ruthless machine which claims to represent "justice" and "due process." The cited reason for Mumia's inability to attend his own hearing was "lack of space" in which to hold him in Philadelphia jails! Ironically, that didn't stop police from arresting a few "disrupters" in the courtroom, for whom Philadelphia jail space was quite available!

Additionally outraged by Mumia's exclusion from court, an angry crowd of 1500+ protested outside the courthouse in defense of America's only political prisoner on death row. They were joined by a multitude of additional demonstrators in San Francisco and various other cities in the US and other countries. The eyes of the world continue to follow the insidious frame-up of a political dissident in a country which claims to stand for "freedom." As government officials scream loudly for the extradition of "terrorists" for trial in the US, one could rightly ask how any "enemy" of the government could expect to receive a fair trial in a system which has turned a blind eye to Mumia's innocence.

In the August 17 hearing, Judge Dembe accepted the lawyers' representation of Mumia but expressed doubt that sufficient cause had been shown for a new PCRA hearing according to the restrictive criteria in place. She set a time period for briefs to be filed by the defense and prosecution; that time period has now elapsed. Judge Dembe can now issue a ruling at any time either allowing or denying Mumia's new PCRA petition to be heard.

In the likely event that Mumia's motion to proceed in state court is rejected, then the next venue for Mumia's legal fight will be before Federal Judge William Yohn in Philadelphia. Yohn has before him a 29 point Habeas Corpus petition (see last newsletter) filed in October 1999. Recent attempts by Mumia's current lawyers to add a number of additional claims, were overruled by Judge Yohn, as were the admission of four amicus ("friend of the court") briefs last year.

While Judge Yohn has clearly shown his hostility to Mumia and the movement to free him, he will need to sink deeper still in order to gloss over the outlandish violations of Mumia's rights so clearly described in the habeas corpus petition. But now with the nation's attention diverted toward the "terrorist threat" and the war, Yohn may feel that Mumia could conveniently become one more casualty of the WTC attack. Well, we intend to show him that we have not forgotten Mumia in the wake of the "new reality," and that in fact "the whole world is watching" to see if an innocent person can receive justice in the U.S. When Mumia does go before Judge Yohn on "Day-X," an outpouring of support will be seen in the streets of Philadelphia outside his courthouse, joined by coordinated actions in dozens of cities around the world. The message will be clear: "Stop the frame-up! Free Mumia now!!"

If you can, arrange to travel to Philly on Day-X (the date will be announced by email when it is known). If you are too far, or in another country, see if there is a demonstration planned in your vicinity (or start organizing one yourself!). But whatever you do, make sure that YOUR voice is heard, so that MUMIA'S voice is not silenced — permanently!

In the meantime, to send a message to Judge Yohn in defense of Mumia, you can fill in a form on either of the following webpages:

www1.minn.net/~meis/yohn.htm
www.dkp-ml.dk/netactivist/E_mumia8.htm

Emergency Action Needed for Mumia!

Currently Judge Pamela Dembe is due to set another court date for more hearings in Mumia's case. This date could be announced any day. We need a massive letter writing campaign to help Mumia. We need you to call Judge Dembe's office and urge your support for Mumia. We need you to write a letter to Judge Dembe demanding her to allow the new evidence be heard.

We Must Demand!

1) That the confession of Arnold Beverly be heard by the state courts.
2) That an evidentiary hearing be held in the state courts to consider all the evidence pointing to Mumia's innocence.
3) That Mumia be present at this hearing and at all legal proceedings in his case.
4) That Mumia be released because he is innocent.

Send your letters to:

Judge Pamela Dembe
1417 Criminal Justice Center
1301 Filbert St.
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Call her office: 215-683-7148
Fax your letters: 215-683-7150

Mayor John Street
Room 215 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Call his office:215-686-3000
Fax your letters: 215-686-2180

BEFORE YOU FORGET, SUBSCRIBE! SEE PAGE 2

Mix 96 fm
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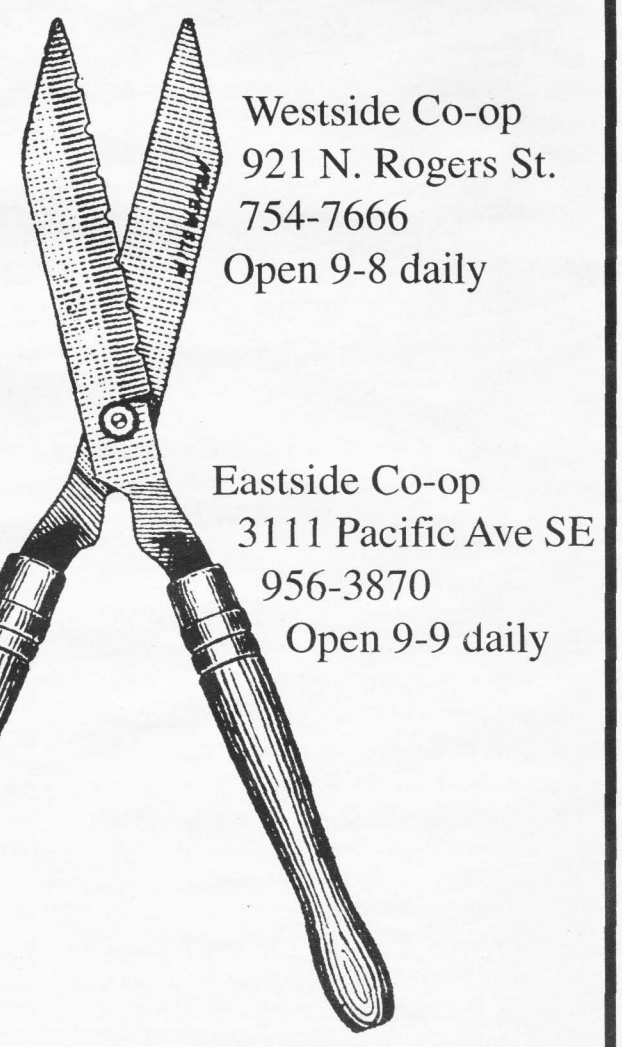
"Soft Rock for the Great Northwest"
Rockway-Leland Bldg. • Downtown Olympia

Olympia Food Co-op
The Olympia Food Co-op
The Co-op has all of your gardening needs, including seeds, organic vegetable and herb starts, organic soil, earth-friendly pest repellants, and more.

Westside Co-op
921 N. Rogers St.
754-7666
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Eastside Co-op
3111 Pacific Ave SE
956-3870
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Member-Owned and Collectively Managed through Consensus Decision Making

2001 Election Issue

VOTE: NOV. 6, 2001 — **WORKS IN PROGRESS** — VOTE: NOV. 6, 2001

Local Praise for Steve Hughes

nomy lamm

Hey friends.

This guy named Steve Hughes is running for Olympia City Council, I met with him the other day and I wanted to let you all know about it. This is actually pretty exciting, he's running against Jeanette Hawkins, who has been on city council for-Ever and is basically known for being two-faced and going back on her word all the time. (Also her husband's the port commissioner, heading up this whole effort to get ourselves a nasty convention center, on the site where there is now a community garden.) Steve was a friend of my sister's in high school, he's in his early twenties, an activist and Evergreen graduate. He seems to have good community-minded politics, good strategy, and is a really good listener -- I think he could be a powerful ally to have on the city council.

I talked to him a lot about living downtown - how development, city ordinances oriented towards making downtown "shopper-friendly" (which often means more difficult for kids and homeless people), and city events like ArtsWalk and Lakefair impact the safety and livability of my neighborhood.

These are the three points of his campaign platform:

1) Walkability as a defining concept for new development. This means that whatever new stuff gets built, it should be conducive to people actually being out on the street walking around in their community, rather than driving in their car to a strip mall and then driving home. Filling in spaces rather than sprawling further and further from the city. Right now the city is currently considering a proposal to put a hotel, restaurant and gas station right off the freeway on Henderson - you know, that beautiful area with all the trees. Obviously this is for highway commuters and not for the people in the neighborhood, and contributes nothing to the livability or walkability of the community.
2) Supporting Land and Housing Trusts. Cutting down on commercial development by putting properties in trust, which means that undeveloped lands remain untouched, and old houses are repaired rather than demolished to make way for new condos.
3) Supporting Living Wage Jobs and Local Businesses. He talked about an ordinance that just got passed in Santa Monica that created a minimum wage of $10.75 an hour. I mentioned that when the law was passed several years ago that companies had to provide benefits to full-time employees, some of my friends who worked at local business got their hours cut, because the small businesses couldn't afford it. Steve saw a possibility of aiming these regulations at larger businesses (this is how the Santa Monica law works). This is good and alleviates some of the concerns of local business owners, but it still means that people who wanna work for more than $7 an hour will still have to work for larger corporations, often in less meaningful environments. But having this conversation has me thinking about possible ways to support living-wage jobs AND local businesses - increasing our community's ability to support itself. On top of keeping outside corporations from leaching off our community, what about providing incentives for local businesses who serve our community? What if the city provided support to businesses who pay a living wage, or who are organized collectively, or who provide a needed service at affordable prices to members of their own community?

It would make a really big difference to have Steve on city council instead of Jeanette Hawkins.

He also said he'd be willing to meet with people individually, if you want to talk about ideas or concerns with him. His phone number is 956-3713, feel free to call but no prank calls okay now? oh yeah and his campaign email is steveisforme@hotmail.com.

Thanks for reading.

Civil Rights Endorsements

(only races with more than two candidates are shown here)

		TEAL	Greens	WFSE	Labor	FV
Olympia School						
Position #5	Barbara Fay Roder			✓		YES!
	Russ Lehman					YES!
Port Commission						
Position #2	Steve Pottle					YES!
	Harold Chambers					
Position #3	Jeff Dickison			✓		YES!
	Paul Telford					NO!
Olympia Council						
Position #4	Curt Pavola	✓			✓	YES!
	Mark Daniels					
Position #5	Matthew Green	✓	✓			YES!
	Jim Boyde					
Position #6	T.J. Johnson	✓	✓!	✓	*	YES!
	Doug Mah			✓	✓	YES!
Position #7	Jeanette Hawkins	✓		✓		YES!
	Steve Hughes		✓!			YES!
Lacey Council						
Position #4	David Hedglin		✓!			
	Ann Burgman					NO!
Position #5	Jim Weber					OK
	John Darby					
Tumwater Council						
Position #5	Karen Valenzuela	✓	✓!		*	YES!
	Michelle Tsalaky					

WIP Election Edition info compiled by:

Tristan Baurick
Clint Burelson
Megan Davis
Pat Tassoni

For more info:

www.southsoundgreens.org

Jim Boyde Purposely Misrepresents Policy

To the Editor,

I can understand that people may have varying levels of understanding about issues of discrimination or human nature. I can also understand that we should always have a robust debate about controversial community issues.

However, I absolutely cannot abide any candidate for public office who knowingly delivers deceptive comments about such issues. This should concern us all.

At a recent neighborhood gathering, candidate Jim Boyde deliberately misrepresented the city council's interaction with the United Way.

The council upheld our 1986 city ordinance that affirms that government should never discriminate against any of its citizens. Mr. Boyde, however, said that the council was telling city employees who they can and cannot contribute their money to. This is absolutely false, and Mr. Boyde told me later that he understood this.

In my private discussion with Mr. Boyde, he acknowledged that city employees are just as free today to give their money to the charities of their choice as they always have been. He understands that the issue addressed by the city council was the potential use of public funds, not private donations, to promote discrimination.

The citizens of Olympia demand more from our public officials than deliberate deception. Mr. Boyde chose to misrepresent the facts for the purpose of self promotion. Fellow citizens, please don't let him get away with this in the future. Vote for Matthew Green for Olympia City Council instead.

Sincerely,
Curt Pavola
Olympia Councilmember

LEGEND

TEAL = Thurston Environmental Action League

Greens = South Sound Green Party
"✓!" indicates to Endorse with Support (highly aligned, knowledgeable, will be effective)
"✓" indicates to Endorse (aligned)
(Alignment has to do with how well candidate positions were on specific issues concurred with the Ten Key Values listed on the bottom our website at www.southsoundgreens.org)

WFSE = Washington Federation of State Employees/AFSCME

Labor = Thurston/Lewis Labor Council
"*" cannot support due to their vote of the Miller/LOTT agreement

FV = Freedom Vote
"YES!" indicates a proven track record in support of GLBT
"NO!" indicates a proven track record in opposition of GLBT
"OK" indicates a strong record in support of GLBT, despite no response to questionaire

INITIATIVES ON THE BALLOT

INITIATIVE 747: Public Service Cuts

This is the latest Initiative put forth by Tim Eyman's organization, Permanent Offense. If passed, it would limit property tax levy increases to 1% a year, except in cases where voters approve a higher increase. This would be a huge drop from the current law, which allows up to 6% increases. This would bring annual increases far under the typical rate of inflation, and would be a dramatic departure from current law, which allows up to 6% increases.

If passed, I-747 would cause immediate slashes in funding for programs like schools, libraries, public hospitals, fire departments and ambulance services, and then a steady dwindling of their budgets over time as inflation carries dollar values further and further ahead of budgetary increases. According to Department of Revenue estimates, if I-747 is passed local governments will lose about $115 million next year, and by 2007, they would be getting about $500 million less in tax intake per year.

$ Total cash funding: $149,450
plus in services: $28,243

Major Contributors:

Various private individuals	$46,850
Various Businesses	$34,749
Wes/Nancy Lematta	$19,000
National Electric Contractors	$10,000
David/Lynda Bishop	$10,000
Bellevue Square Managers, Inc.	$ 5,000
Keith/Janet Patrick	$ 6,000
Toby/Irene Nixon	$ 5,000
Deborah Reinhart	$ 4,000
Steve/Julie O'Donnel	$ 3,000
WA Apartment Association	$ 1,000
Iowa Tax Limitation Committee	$ 2,000
Managed Housing Communities	$ 2,500

X Total cash funding: $177,693
plus in services: $ 5,604

Major OPPOSITION:

WA State Council of County and City Employees	$252,785
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees	$ 50,000
Various labor councils	$ 27,909
WA State Council Firefighters	$ 25,000
Various union locals	$ 24,580
Private individuals	$ 18,500
WA Federation of State Employees	$ 15,000
WA State Hospital Association	$ 10,000
Various Friends of Libraries Associations	$ 5,500
Seattle/Northwest Securities Co.	$ 5,000
Economic Opportunity Institute	$ 2,011

Commentary:

A look at the funding for this Initiative reveals it to be a pretty dramatic case of business versus labor forces. What's more, several of the business donors to the pro-I-747 campaign are from development-related industries, such as real estate, gravel, hardware and construction companies, and several of the individual donors tend to be owners and executives of these types of businesses. Opposition to I-747 is almost entirely made up of labor forces, especially those representing workers who would face layoffs from I-747-induced budget cuts.

Tim Eyman swears the language of this Initiative is totally legal, in contrast to a couple others he's pulled out of his boxers in the past. Remember '98, when his baby I-695 passed and gutted our bus system? As was the case with 695, the people who will probably suffer the most if 747passes are the kids, the sick and disabled, the old, and low-income people.

INITIATIVE 773: Health Care Tax on Cigarettes

This measure would increase sales tax on cigarettes and wholesale tobacco products, and direct the proceeds to health care programs for low-income people. The group organizing to pass this Initiative, called Healthcare for Washington's Working Families, states that I-773 will 1. Improve the health of low-income kids and adults, 2. Expand working families' access to basic health care, and 3. Fund programs to reduce smoking, especially among kids.

$ Total cash funding: $913,401
plus in services: $51,331

Major Contributors:

American Cancer Society	$269,312
National Center and Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids	$255,670
American Lung Association	$120,613
Community Health Network	$100,000
Various clinics/centers/co-ops	$ 69,775
American Heart Association	$ 42,500
Various associations of health care providers/hospitals	$ 33,800
Private individuals*	$ 33,800
Kaiser Permanente	$ 15,000
Economic Opportunity Inst.	$ 17,564

*(mostly doctors, also the Exec. Dir. of Economic Opportunity Institution, director of the State Senate Democratic Campaign, and small business owners)

☑ **Groups Endorsing I-773 include:** Association of Churches and League of Women Voters.

Major OPPOSITION:

RJ Reynolds	$30,000
Smokeless Tobacco Council, Inc.	$30,000
Phillip Morris	$ 3,159
Total registered cash funding:	**$ 60,000**
plus in services:	**$ 10,944**

Commentary:

Opposition to Initiative 773 appears to generally include only big tobacco forces, politicians who've received contributions from big tobacco, and a coalition of small neighborhood grocery stores. For fun, check out the weird little e-movie entitled "The Real Phillip Morris" at <www.i773.org>

INITIATIVE 775: Home Care

The group organizing to get I-775 passed, called Washingtonians for Quality Home Care, describes itself as "a broad coalition of seniors, people with disabilities, health care advocates and home care workers." Their stated purpose for this Initiative is to create an infrastructure that will create higher quality home care for seniors and people with disabilities.

More specifically, this Initiative aims to 1. Establish a worker registry and referral service to make it easier to find trained home care providers, 2. Create a system of accountability and incorporate work standards into the state's home care program, and 3. Reduce turnover among home care workers by improving training and making clear their right to organize labor unions.

$ Total cash funding: $991,299
plus in services: $20,284

Major Contributors:

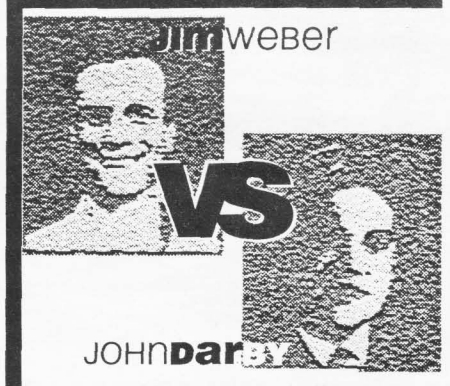
SEIU, national & Seattle Local 6	$999,150
AFL-CIO	$ 11,454
Jim Oswald	$ 99
WA Labor Council	$ 880

☑ **Groups Endorsing I-775 include:** Several senior groups; several unions and labor councils; WA Citizen Action; WA Association of Churches; WA State Nurses Association; Lifelong AIDS Alliance; The Spokane, Yakima and Seattle Living Wage Coalitions.

Commentary:

Nobody appears to have organized opposition to Initiative 775.

Lacey City Council
Candidates for Position #5



Jim Weber works for the Washington Department of Retirement Services. He was first elected to the Lacey City Council in 1994.

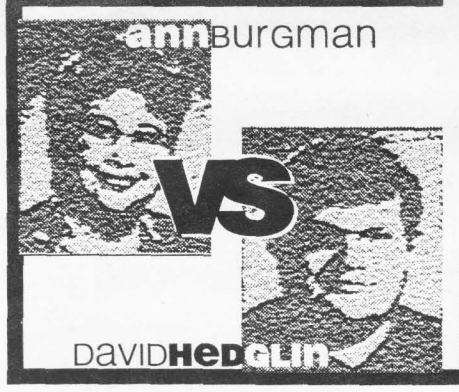
Weber has worked to preserve and improve the lakes and rivers in the Lacey area where he has lived his entire life. He has a special passion in protecting Woodland Creek where he played as a kid. Weber favors small business over the chain stores. He has advocated for civil rights on the council. He has taken a lot of heat on the pro-business Lacey Council for his views.

The business community, especially the building industry, does not like Weber's advocacy for the environment. In addition, *The Olympian* (Gannett Corporation), contributors to the Affordable Housing Council, a Building Industry political action committee, has provided negative coverage of Weber.

Local 443 of the Washington Federation of State Employees has taken the position that Jim Weber is unfit for public office. However, Local 443 has not endorsed Weber's opponent, John Darby, who is the candidate of business. Despite Local 443's strange proclamation, Weber is clearly better than Darby on labor issues and other issues pertinent to regular citizens.

Jim has no fundraising on record.

Lacey City Council
Candidates for Position #4



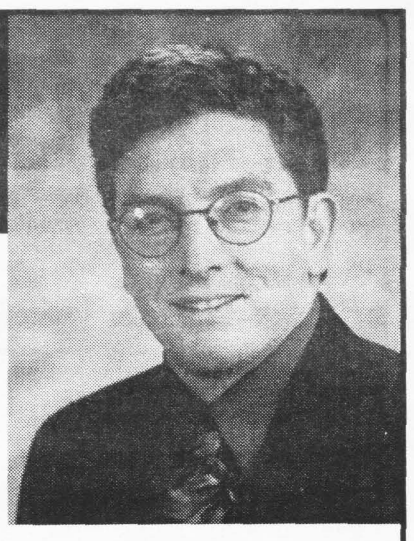
All you need to know:

David: Greens Endorsement!
Ann: No such Endorsements
Ann: Runs a Funeral Home, dealing with death
David: Publishes magazine, dealing with life

Score: 2 to 0

Vote Death Down
David Lives!

Retain T.J. JOHNSON
Olympia City Council ◆ Position 6



Vote for a proven leader with a demonstrated commitment to workers' rights, civil rights, and the environment:

- Union member for over eight years (IFPTE Local 17 and AFSCME Local 443), former organizer and shop steward.
- Voted against the Miller/LOTT agreement because Miller would not agree to protect union jobs.
- Led the recent effort to protect 29 acres of forest and wetland in Northeast Olympia, and supports low-impact development standards to protect salmon habitat.
- Endorsed by Thurston Environmental Action League (TEAL), Washington Conservation Voters, and Freedom Vote.

"T.J. Johnson is a good Councilmember, dedicated to our community, willing to tackle the tough issues, and already tried and tested."

-- Jennifer Belcher,
Former Commissioner of Public Lands

Make your voice heard! Vote by November 6!

Paid for by: Citizens to Retain T.J. Johnson
120 State Ave NE #225, Olympia, WA 98501-8212
Chris Gowdey, Treasurer

www.olywa.net/tjforcouncil

John Darby, age 25, is the membership director for the Olympia/Thurston Chamber of Commerce, a business association. Darby was on the McCleary city council for two years, where he demonstrated conservative and pro development/business views. Darby moved to Lacey just last year.

Darby gave $100 to conservative John Carlson (R) when Carlson ran for Governor in 2000 and $1,000 to the United Pentecostal Church that same year. The business community is the main supporters of Darby. The Lacey Business League, associated with the Lacey Chamber of Commerce, gave Darby $1,500.

Conservatives, the Chamber of Commerce, and other business types in Thurston County hope that the speaking skills Darby acquired at the UW along with his conservative/business friendly views will make him an effective advocate for the business community. However, Darby's speaking skills and personality, that can be seen on television in various forums on TCTV, is at the level of a bad used car salesman.

Still, businessmen want anyone other than Darby's opponent, Jim Weber, who can be counted on to raise questions about the unregulated growth and destruction of the environment.

The dominance of business in Lacey is a real problem for the citizens of Lacey and the neighboring communities. The infamous "Lacey Sucks" T-shirt contained the often heard phrase that reflects citizens frustration and disgust with how business has shaped Lacey. Darby, as an employee of the Chamber of Commerce, will have the time and resources to push the business agenda even harder. Labor, environmentalists, and civil right advocates should vote to keep Darby out of the Lacey City Council.

Political Contributions by John Darby total: $5,595

Labor, environmentalists, and civil right advocates should keep Darby off the Lacey Council.

Vote Jim Weber!

Tumwater City Council
Candidates for Position #5

Top Money Contributors to Karen Valenzuela

WA Conservation Voters	$300
Diane Parish	$250
Esteban Valenezuela	$250
Linda Bremer	$150
Ralph Osgood, Mayor - Tumwater	$100
Jim Lazar, Economist - Microdesign NW	$100
Mohamma Ackter, Exe Director	$100
Tom Ansart, Business Owner	$100
WA Women's Political Caucus	$100

Top Money Contributors to Michelle Tsalaky

WA Association of Realtors	$500
TAHC, Building Industry	$300
Miller Brewing Co., Philip Morris	$300
Puget Sound Energy, Utilities	$300
Walter/Irene Abplamalp, Tucker Farms	$300
T. Tsalaky, in Idaho	$250
Kevin O'Sullivan, Co. Commissioner	$100
Harold LeMay Enterprises	$100
Waste Connections, Business	$100
Denise Quinn, Manager - Miller Co.	$100.
Tom McCabe, Building Industry	$100
Doug DeForest, Olympia Builders	$100
Peter Fleutsch, Business Owner	$100

Karen Valenzuela is a Program/Policy Analyst for the Department of Health. She was appointed to the Tumwater City Council in January of 2000.

Contributions to Valenzuela's campaign have come from a number of sources, including environmentalists, Democrats, and civil rights. Tsalaky has the notable support of the Mayor of Tumwater, Ralph Osgood, who is highly respected throughout the county.

Valenzuela opposed the LOTT Miller Agreement in February 2001. She was the only council member in Tumwater to vote against the resolution. Valenzuela offered an amendment to delete provisions that extended preferential rates and forgave debt, but the amendment failed for lack of a second.

Valenzuela was one of the key council members who helped the City of Tumwater pass the Equal Benefits Ordinance that provided for equal benefits to employees of companies doing business with the city.

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Olympia
City Council
Position #5
Candidate
Matthew Green

Commentary: vote green.

'Green' is a fitting name for this position 5 candidate. Matthew Green is an environmental policy analyst for the Department of Natural Resources, a member of the Washington Federation of State Employees, Local 443, is a graduate of TESC, and is a former president of the Thurston Environmental Action League (TEAL).

Green is calling for the preservation of natural spaces, closely managed growth, and for the clean-up of Capital Lake. The current plan of spending $200 to $300 thousand each year on a downtown conference center is not a wise use of taxpayer money, Green says. Green may support another incarnation of the conference center if the public is allowed more input in the planning and implementation. Green says impact fees are useful but favors lowering them in downtown. More sidewalks, bike lanes, and parks are other aspects stressed in Green's campaign.

Green has built strong momentum for November's election. Green soundly defeated his competitors during the primary, capturing nearly 43 percent of the vote. Influential endorsements abound for Green, with Mayor Stan Biles and six current Olympia City Council members throwing their support behind him. TEAL, the South Sound Greens, and Freedom Vote. He has the most well funded campaign of any other candidate running for council positions.

A current member of the Olympia Planning Commission, Green is a member of the Northwest Olympia Neighborhood Association, which he helped found.

Top Campaign Contributors

Warren Green	$300
Washington Conservation Voters	$300
James Green	$250
The Seattle Student Council	$250
Helen Bresker, Dept. of Ecology	$200
Steve Green	$200
Ellen Oliver, Manager Computer Assets	$200
Stephen Wamback, Solid Waste Admin.	$178
Courtney Frobenius, Indochina Tours	$175
Mari Margil, Sierra Club	$150
Curt Pavola, Olympia Council	$150
Stan Biles, Olympia Mayor	$100
Russ Cahill, Fish & Wildlife Comm.	$100

TOTAL: $9,265

THIS - OR - THAT?

Olympia
City Council
Position #5
Candidate
Jim Boyde

Commentary: Look around town. The connection is clear: where ever you see a Rants Group sign selling property or encouraging development, you'll see a large 'Elect Jim Boyde' sign.

A newcomer to the area, Jim Boyde moved from California to serve as the Capital Mall's general manager. Boyde netted only 29 percent of the vote in September's primary election, placing him 14 percentage points under challenger Matthew Green. This is Boyde's first time running for office.

As one might expect from a candidate who runs a shopping mall and employs developer Pat Rants, of the Rants Group real estate company, as his campaign advisor, Boyde is strongly pro-business and pro-development.

Boyde considers building a conference center a high priority and has said he wants to attract developers to revitalize downtown with new construction and new businesses. Boyde has proposed eliminating impact fees to encourage development. This would reduce a developer's financial responsibility to offset the impact new construction has on the community. Some feel this could shift financial responsibility on to local taxpayers.

A more open City Council through less closed-door meetings and slower traffic in residential areas are also main tenets of Boyde's campaign.

Boyde notes his affiliation with the Olympia Rotary Club as his community involvement.

The "Thurston Affordable Housing Council," the political action wing of the Olympia Builders, and the WA Association of Realtors endorse Boyde.

Top Campaign Contributors

Frank Roberts	$500
Denise Quinn, Manager Miller Brewing	$250
TAHC, Building Industry	$250
WA Association of Realtors	$250
John Drebick, Investments	$250
Ken Blakeslee, CPA	$200
Frederick Goldberg, Investments	$200
Puget Sound Energy, Utilities	$200
Stephen Bean, Attorney and Rotary	$100
Celeste Daniels-Brown, Business Owner	$100
Dennis Peterson, Stock Broker	$100
Heber Kennedy, Port Real Estate Manager	$100
Stephen Snow, Surgeon	$100

TOTAL: $8,853

Olympia
City Council
Position #6
Candidate
T.J. Johnson

Commentary: Keep Johnson in Office

TJ Johnson currently holds Position 6 on the City Council, having been appointed by the Council members to a vacant seat in August '00. Johnson is a partner in the Swantown Inn Bed and Breakfast and works for the state, coordinating commuter reduction plans.

Johnson's a progressive with an environmental focus; his campaign committee members include Democrats and Green Party members. He is a union member of the Washington Federation of State Employees, Local 443 and is a former organizer and shop steward. Johnson stated that he voted against the LOTT/Miller Agreement because Miller refused to guarantee future employment for the Miller workers.

Top Campaign Contributors

Jim Lazar, Economist/Microdesign	$400
Stephanie Johnson	$300
WA Conservation Voters	$300
Karen Messner, Program Manager-WSU	$170
Curt Pavola, Olympia Council	$150
Steve Langer, Psychologist	$150
Frank Steinmark	$150
Karen Valenzuela, Tumwater Council	$140
Jolene Unsoeld, x-Congresswoman	$135
Stacy Waterman-Hoey, Energy Specialist	$130
Matthew Green, Candidate for Olympia	$125

TOTAL: $17,018

THIS - OR - THAT?

Olympia
City Council
Position #6
Candidate
Doug Mah

Commentary: For a look at Doug Mah and TJ Johnson's stances on local environmental issues, check out the October edition of *Green Pages*.

Mah is affiliated with the Democratic Party, but is the preferred candidate by the Republican party, as well as the business community. The building industry is especially supportive of Mah. In fact, his campaign manager is Alan Martin, the Government Affairs Director for the Home Builders Association of Kitsap County, which is affiliated with the misnamed Affordable Housing Council and parented by the Building Industry Association of Washington. Mah says he is a long time supporter of a convention center.

Doug Mah applied for this same Position last year when the Council had to appoint someone to a vacated seat, but he was passed over by the Council in favor of T.J. Johnson. Mah is currently employed as budget manager at the Department of Corrections, in the Office of Administrative Services. He is the Secretary for Thurston Democrats. He has contributed money to the campaigns of Democrat Sandra Romero, Republican Sam Reed, and Governor Gary Locke.

Top Campaign Contributors

Jule Larrison	$1,000
Richard & Emily Mah, Attorney	$500
Denise/John Quinn, Manager - Miller	$500
Miller Brewing Co, Philip Morris	$300
Real Estate Properties Mgmt.,	$300
Jane Mah	$300
Frank Roberts	$300
Olympia Assoc. of Realtors	$250
Don & Mary Jo Matthies	$250
Glenn Olson, Manager - Clark Co	$250
Ron Rants, Realtor - Rants Group	$200
Puget Sound Energy, Utilities	$200
CB Design, in-kind donation	$7,909
Political Consulting, in-kind donation	$6,625

TOTAL: $33,209

Port of Olympia Commissioner Position #2

Candidate

Steve Pottle

Commentary: Pottle's campaign treasurer is Kevin Christensen, owner of a contracting company. Pottle recently made contributions to Republican candidates Doug Sutherland and Sam Reed.

Running unopposed in 1997, Pottle is the incumbent in this election. Pottle is the sales and marketing manager of Microsoft Great Plains Business Solutions and is affiliated with the Yelm Chamber of Commerce.

Pottle wishes to bring new business to the Port through incentives like Foreign Trade Zones, which allows corporations to avoid tariffs until sending to final destination. He believes a tax base is necessary to support the Port and wants to encourage the mixed use of Port property. Pottle wants to increase public awareness of Port issues by broadcasting meetings via television and the Internet.

Top Campaign Contributors

Ron Rants, Developer – Rants Group	$200
Donald Rhodes, CEO – Heritage Bank	$200
Bob Jones, Bob Jones Associates	$200
WA Association of Realtors	$150
Max Milkap	$150
Nick Adams, Real Estate Developer	$100
Glen Hudson, Lobbyist – Assoc. of WA	$100
Kaufmann Construction	$100
Alan Nieman , Nieman Construction	$100
Sharon Waldo, Lawyer – Honeywell	$100
Nick Handy, Director – Port of Olympia	$100
William Westbury, Manager – Anthony's	$100
Heber Kennedy, Port Real Estate Manager	$100
Marvin Leib, Business Owner – Jewelry	$100

TOTAL: $10,853

THIS - OR - THAT?

Port of Olympia Commissioner Position #2

Candidate

Harold Chambers

Commentary: Little separates Chambers from Pottle *ideologically*. But with *no* financial contributors tying him to developers, and his promise to cut spending on a commission that many see as a useless relic, Chambers is slightly more appealing than Pottle.

A retired military man from Yelm, Harold Chambers says he wants to clean up the Port's wasteful spending and cut Port-related taxes. The Port's poor financial decisions, in Chamber's view, include buying cranes and building cold storage for Tyson Foods.

Chambers says his primary goals as Commissioner would be to make the Port self-supporting and to cut involvement with private business. Like Pottle, Chambers also favors Trade Zones. Chambers does not believe outlying areas, like Yelm, benefit from the Port and should not be required to finance it.

Chambers is a board member of Citizens for Legislative Ethics and Accountability (CLEAN), Chambers is also a financial supporter of Tim Eyman's organization Permanent Offense.

Top Campaign Contributors

Chambers says he accepts no monetary contributions and has not filed contribution reports with the Public Disclosure Commission.

THIS - OR - THAT?

Port of Olympia Commissioner Position #3

Candidate

Jeff Dickison

Commentary: KEEP DICKISON IN OFFICE

Jeff Dickison is a Fisheries Biologist for the Squaxin Island Tribe. He has been a Port Commissioner since 1992. Dickison has been active in the environmental arena for a long time. He was a board member of the South Puget Sound Environmental Education Clearinghouse (SPEECH) in 1991 and 1992.

Dickison was instrumental in assisting the Squaxin Island Tribes historic agreement with the Simpson Co., to remove the Goldsborough Creek Dam. Simpson, WA Fish & Wildlife and the US Army Corps of Engineers are all contributing to remove the dam and restore the river to its natural state. The fish runs are expected to improve dramatically in the area.

Dickison has a good civil rights record as evidenced by his support from Freedom Vote. Dickison also has the support of Local 443 of the WA State Employees Union. Historically, environmentally conscious people and progressives in general have supported him in his elections.

Dickison would like to see an Olympia convention center. With the proximity to the water and the already polluted Cascade Pole site, voters will want Port Commissioners who will have an environmental eye on the activities within the Port's jurisdiction. Most voters will also want to enjoy public property near the water for recreation and relaxation. Dickison is by far the better candidate to protect the public's interest on both counts.

Top Campaign Contributors

Ellie/Beth Halpern, Attorney	$250
Norman Lea	$200
Richard Phillips, Attorney – OwenDavies	$150
Frank Swinkey, Real Estate Agent	$150
WA Association of Realtors	$150
Heber Kennedy, Port RealEstate Mnager	$100
Sarah Smyth, Attorney	$100
John Swannock, Manager– WA DOL	$100

TOTAL: $2,650

Note: Jeff Dickison did not start raising money until after Paul Telford changed his reporting status and started taking contributions over that which he originally stated he would take.

THIS - OR - THAT?

Port of Olympia Commissioner Position #3

Candidate

Paul Telford

Commentary: Telford's views are the opposite of the public citizens who worked to buy the port land and engage in other activities for the common good.

Paul Telford is a retired engineer. He currently makes money as a landlord. Telford ran for County Commissioner as a Democrat in 1993 in an unsuccessful bid against Republican Dick Nichols. In the last two years, Telford gave $200 to Republican John Carlson, the conservative talk show host who ran for Governor. Telford also gave $1200 to Tim Eyman's organization, Permanent Offense and $1000 to Eyman's $30 car tab initiative.

Telford is supported with monetary contributions from the business community. Telford is endorsed by Tim Sheldon, the Senator for the 35th District. Sheldon, although registered as a Democrat, generally votes like a Republican. Telford also has the support of County Commissioner Kevin O'Sullivan. In addition, *The Olympian*, owned by the Gannett corporation, has provided Telford with frequent and favorable coverage over the last few years, often trying to suggest that Telford is a "citizen advocate."

However, Telford is interested in reducing government by cutting taxes and turning public property over to the private sector. He has indicated that the public land and services (even the Marina) that is managed by the Port for the public should be sold to private individuals. The Ports were created by Washington's populist citizens, who did not want to see rich guys, like Railroad Robber Baron Jim Hill, own all the good land near the water. Telford's views are the opposite of the citizens who worked to buy land and engage in other activities for the common good.

Top Campaign Contributors

Bob Skillman	$400
Sidney & Victoria Wyrick	$300
TAHC, Building Industry	$250
Lacey Business League	$250
Larry Emery, Business Owner	$250
West Bay Marina, Business	$250
West Bay Marine Services, Business	$250
Fred Finn, Realtor	$200
Charles Zimmerman	$200
Mike Pettit, Republican Candidate	$150
Frank DareRepublican Candidate	$100
Bob Kagy, Business Owner	$100
Shawn Newman, CLEAN	$100
Kevin O'Sullivan, County Comm.	$100

TOTAL: $4,450

"Not in Our Son's Name"

Paul Ortiz

Citizens of the United States are being told that they are embarking on a war that will last for decades, perhaps the entire century. Attorney General Ashcroft vows that civil liberties will be curtailed, and former President Clinton has told African Americans that they must be willing to "compromise" their civil rights in the struggle against terrorism.

The media is leading the call for permanent conflict and abridgements of freedom for the duration of what may become "our" 100 Years War. Journalists who have the temerity to criticize George W. Bush have already been fired in Texas and Oregon. Arab Americans are being terrorized, and shot down.

Lost in the patriotic drumbeats are voices of people such as Phyllis and Orlando Rodriquez. They are parents of a young man who lost his life in the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on September 11. "We read enough of the news to sense that our government is heading in the direction of violent revenge," the Rodriquez's note, "with the prospect of sons, daughters, parents, friends in distant lands dying, suffering, and nursing further grievances against us. It is not the way to go... not in our son's name."

Historian Jeremy Brecher notes, "In the months before September 11, the Bush Administration undermined one effort after another to address world problems on an international basis.

While Americans are being asked to change their opinions on everything ranging from internet privacy to the Fourth Amendement in the wake of September 11"things will never be the same again"— many corporate and political leaders in the U.S. are using the crisis to implement the same old failed policies of militarism and capitalism.

Witness the reemergence of Henry Kissinger. This is a man who is considered by many in Chile, Cyprus, East Timor and elsewhere to be responsible for crimes against humanity. Kissinger is now back in demand as a foreign policy "expert." So too are a whole host of Iran/Contra felons as well as Alexander Haig, former CIA/FBI chiefs, James Baker, etc.

In other words, the architects of the Vietnam War, the killing fields of Central America, and the subversion of democratic governments from Iran to Guatemala, are back in the saddle. Ordinary people are asked to change their behavior, to accept cutbacks to health, education, and welfare programs while their government pursues the same polices that make the world unsafe for Americans at home and millions of people abroad.

The path to peace and justice, as Phyllis and Orlando Rodriquez understand, is more complicated than the path to war. Peace requires self-reflection, constructive engagement (even with one's enemies), and a desire for universal justice. Instead, in the period leading up to September 11, President Bush established a reputation as a leader more committed to the needs of the defense industry than the sanctity of human life.

Historian Jeremy Brecher notes, "In the months before September 11, the Bush Administration undermined one effort after another to address world problems on an international basis. It skipped out on the Kyoto Protocol on global warming, scuttled efforts to control biological weapons, refused to support a war crimes tribunal, withdrew from efforts to limit nuclear proliferation, and announced withdrawal from the treaty against anti-ballistic missiles." Yet, these are the very kinds of initiatives that undermine terrorism and crimes against humanity.

There is still an opportunity in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11 to pull back from the precipice of war and choose a democratic response. Peace activists have a critical role to play in this effort. We have to understand that some progressives Christopher Hitchens comes to mindwill create rationalizations for not joining us this time around. I recall the same phenomenon during the Panama War and the Gulf War. Then, some former activists told me that these new conflicts were "more complex" than Vietnam, hence they were not going to participate in anti-war activities.

The situation today is more complex, but it is a complexity of our own making. Over two decades ago the Carter Administration armed what Tariq Ali calls "ultra-religious tribes" in Afghanistan in order to draw the Soviet Union into a Vietnam-style invasion quagmire. Along the way, religious fundamentalists in Afghanistan, with CIA support, destroyed every social advance the country had made. Simultaneously, the U.S. replicated this pattern in Central America and Indonesia, supporting the most reactionary elements in these regions against secular groups advocating gender equality, free trade unions, and democratic elections.

The countries which support the U.S. in this new war today—Great Britain, Germany, France, Russia, etc., are the same old imperialist nations that seek to extend their control over the earth via military or economic means. As always, war exacerbates racism and racial oppression. Witness the recent attacks on Arab Americans in our region as well as the racist flyers posted on the UCSC Campus. War also promotes misogyny, famine, and militarism. Nothing complex about those vicious social forces. Phyllis and Orlando Rodriquez had the courage to say "Not in our son's name." We must draw from their heroic example, and choose a peaceful resolution of this crisis.

We cannot allow ourselves to be demoralized by those who rationalize violence. We must redouble our activism on behalf of peace and justice.

Paul Ortiz Assistant Professor Community Studies University of California, Santa Cruz.

Meanwhile, Life Outside Goes On

Ron Jacobs

While the United States (including Cincinnati, I assume) keeps its eyes on the Pentagon's war and its nose in the air fearing some kind of biological or chemical attack by unnamed terrorists, the men in blue just got away with another murder. The officer who shot 19 year-old Timothy Thomas in Cincinnati, Ohio last spring after discovering he had several misdemeanor warrants out on him, was acquitted of reduced manslaughter charges by a municipal judge on Wednesday, September 26th. While the media feeds us stories of hero police officers in Manhattan (although I find the firefighters, medical personnel, rescue workers, and civilians giving their time to be greater heroes) and GW Bush and Attorney General Ashcroft try to tear up the Bill of Rights in the name of security, the terrorism against the African-American community by law enforcement continues its shameful history over the bodies of unarmed Black men and women.

If one recalls, this murder caused major unrest in Cincinnati last spring. Unrest which has been repeated on a smaller scale in the wake of this verdict. There will be those who decry this violence as inappropriate in the wake of the terrible bloodshed perpetrated on New York City and the Pentagon September 11th by terrorists assumed to be connected with the anti-American terrorist Osama bin Laden. While they may have a point, it is important to recall the terrorism which has been visited on people of color in this country since its founding, especially as regards African-Americans. The legacy of slavery and second-class citizenship, of which police murders are but the most obvious examples of in today's world, are a legacy which not only influences America's actions in the legal realm, but in all facets of life.

The freedoms African-American men and women have been told they are fighting for in every war since the end of the Civil War have been elusive upon their return to the U.S.

If the war that many in the Bush administration are pushing for occurs and U.S. soldiers find themselves fighting an unending war with U.S. deaths higher than they have been since Vietnam, one can be certain that a large number of those deaths will be African-American. Unfortunately, many of those who come back alive will be subject to the same type of policing that killed Timothy Thomas. The freedoms African-American men and women have been told they are fighting for in every war since the end of the Civil War have been elusive upon their return to the United States. From baseball hero Jackie Robinson—who served as an officer in World War II, came back to the US and found himself in trouble because he opposed the racism he found stateside both on and off base—to Black Panther Geronimo jiJaga Pratt—who returned a battle-decorated veteran from Vietnam and found the racism and police treatment of African-Americans so distasteful he became a revolutionary who ended up being framed and imprisoned for 27 years on false charges of murder—the story of African-Americans being used by the U.S. government to fight its wars only to find that nothing changes once the uniform is off is an all too familiar one.

There were those in the movement against the Vietnam war who sought to link the war and racism at home together, some even making the claim that these two wars were actually the same. This conclusion does not require any real extension of the imagination. Indeed, the attacks on New York and the Pentagon have brought out some of the worst racism against Asian and Middle Eastern peoples ever known in this country. The growing movement against war and for peace has been careful to address this in its slogans and literature, calling for an end to discrimination against Arab-American and Muslim peoples. It would do well to include in its struggle a call to end the seemingly never-ending war against African-Americans who, despite the systemic and individual racism they face every day, grieve as deeply as all other U.S. citizens for the innocents killed on September 11, 2001, and who will most likely die in numbers beyond their proportionate ratio of the U.S. population should the Bush war on terrorism get out of hand.

Posters for you at $1/ea
(see page two)

The Taliban and Women in Afghanistan

Jacquelyn Cole

Afghanistan has been under the international spotlight recently as the refuge of Osama bin Laden, the man allegedly responsible for masterminding the September 11th attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center. With the United States making retaliatory strikes against Afghanistan, the Taliban have also come under intense scrutiny in the media, particularly for their restrictions on women's rights.

The Taliban's oppression of women has been challenged on many fronts; by Western feminists, aid workers in Afghanistan, and Muslims throughout the world, to name a few. The United States government has also condemned the Taliban for its treatment of women. While there are several possible approaches to ameliorate the situation of Afghani women, it is ironic that the United States is bombing the country whose citizens it has expressed concern for.

The tactic of criticizing the Taliban from within an Islamic framework may prove to be constructive, as it could engage the Taliban in a serious dialogue that could lead it to re-examine its own philosophies.

In order to understand the circumstances in Afghanistan, some historical background is relevant. During the decade of Soviet occupation of Afghanistan from 1979 – 1989, the United States and Pakistan supported the mujahedeen or Islamic "holy warrior" movements that rose against the Soviets. However, after the Soviets withdrew in 1989, support for the different mujahedeen movements was withdrawn, and they turned against each other. Civil war erupted, and a period of chaos ensued.

The Taliban emerged as a powerful force in 1994, while the country was in the throes of the civil war. It was widely acknowledged that the Afghanis were disenchanted with the mujahedeen leadership's inability to restore peace and economic prosperity to the country, which had been ruined by years of war. As a reformist force dedicated to restoring peace and implementing their version of Islamic law in Afghanistan, the Taliban quickly gained support among the Afghan public. The Taliban soon took control of much of the country, and by 1996, they were the de-facto rulers of Afghanistan.

Once the Taliban gained control of the majority of Afghanistan, including Kabul, the capital, they set out to achieve their stated objectives. Their goals were to re-establish the peace, rid the country of arms, implement the shari'a, and defeat their rivals in order to take control of the remaining part of Afghanistan. The implementation of the shari'a was especially relevant to gender issues. The shari'a, a code of law based on the Qur'an, the most holy text of Islam, governs many aspects of women's lives. Many self-declared Islamic countries have legal systems based at least in part on the shari'a.

However, the Taliban's interpretation of shari'a represented a radical divergence from any previous interpretation, in Afghanistan or elsewhere in the Muslim world. The Taliban's laws restricted women's lives drastically in many areas. The new laws banned Afghani women from attending school, seeking health care, and from employment. Women were fired from their jobs, and girls' schools were closed. Additionally, it was deemed too dangerous for women to be seen in public, so it became mandatory for women to cover themselves from head to toe. A mesh-like cover over the face prevented any exposure. If women had to go out, they were to be escorted by a male relative.

Under the new laws, Afghani women lost many of their rights. Before 1996, when the Taliban came to power, women had theoretically enjoyed broad freedoms under the 1964 Constitution. They were allowed to work, receive education, and participate in politics. In Kabul, the capital, women's involvement in public life was particularly noticeable. In the 1970's, some urban women from the upper classes began to adopt "Western" ways, such as dressing in the "Western" fashion, although not all elements of society approved of this. Yet, all this changed when the Taliban came to power.

As in the West, journalists and activists from the Muslim community disapprove of the Taliban's policies on the grounds that they violate women's rights. For instance, Asghar Ali Engineer, writing for *Pakistan Today*, states, "Afghan society under the Taliban has crossed all limits in mistreating women..." But unlike the Western reports, many of these accusations come from within a framework of Islam. These journalists and activists from the Muslim community who oppose the Taliban often highlight specific passages from the Qur'an that contradict the Taliban's policies toward women. For instance, in charging that the Taliban's ban on women in the workplace is un-Islamic, the Muslim Women's League prints a passage from the Qur'an on their website: *"Men shall have a benefit from what they earn and women shall have a benefit from what they earn (4:32)."* The MWL explains that this clearly entitles women to play an equitable economic role in society with men.

Just as Muslims throughout the world are challenging the Taliban from within an Islamic framework, so are certain Afghani women working as aid providers in Afghanistan itself. These women use a strategy of "dialogue" with the Taliban. In encounters with members of the Taliban, they quote relevant passages from the Qur'an to remind the Taliban that under Islam, men and women have equal rights. In contrast to certain secular feminist groups, such as the Pakistan-based Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA), that use Western feminist tactics such as staging large protests, the women aid workers who choose to "dialogue" claim that confrontational protests alienate the Taliban and push them to even harsher measures. By conducting their work in a more low-key, cooperative manner, many aid workers believe that they can achieve more for Afghani women. For instance, Farida Azizi, an Afghani aid worker based in Pakistan, conforms to the Taliban's dress code when she's working in Afghanistan. For this reason, perhaps, the Taliban allowed her to train twenty women as midwives. Azizi's approach, which the journalist Fariba Nawa characterizes as a "Middle Eastern" approach, compared to the more confrontational "Western" approach favored by Western-style feminist groups, has proved successful for some aid workers. Unfortunately, the opinions and efforts of women like Azizi have been largely disregarded by Western feminist organizations, and have consequently received almost no attention in the Western media.

In the Western mainstream media, the issue of the Taliban's treatment of women in Afghanistan has been simplified into a black and white debate with the Taliban and their supporters on one side and the Western and Western-minded feminist organizations, such as RAWA on the other. While the Western feminist groups are working in the interest of women in Afghanistan, they only represent one approach to the problem. Other strategies that favor dialogue and moderation have not been adequately addressed. Tragically, the unwillingness to consider a multi-faceted approach to the problem may result in the greater suffering of Afghani women. The tactic of criticizing the Taliban from within an Islamic framework may prove to be constructive, as it could engage the Taliban in a serious dialogue that could lead it to re-examine its own philosophies.

Whatever approach is taken, it is clear that the U.S. military action against bin Laden and the Taliban will not improve the situation for Afghani women. The United States government has used the Taliban's treatment of women as a reason to condemn the Taliban. Yet, bombing Afghanistan harms Afghani women far more than any action that the Taliban has taken so far to curtail women's rights, as even the most "precise" bombing campaign will always result in innocent civilian casualties. Furthermore, striking at targets in Afghanistan may lead Afghani women to perceive the United States as their enemy, and to rally behind the Taliban.

The United States government, in response to media reports on the position of women in Afghanistan, has expressed concern for Afghani women. Now is the time for it to act on that concern, instead of waging a punitive military strike that condemns innocent women to greater suffering and hardship.

Film Benefit for Media Island International

Jung (War)

In the Land of the Mujaheddin

Wednesday, October 24th
7pm at Traditions Café
(300 5th Avenue SW) Downtown

Fabrizio Lazzaretti, Alberto Vendemmiati

Afghanistan/Italy

2000.- 114m

In Dari and Italian with English subtitles

Winner of the 2001 HRWIFF Nestor Almendros Prize

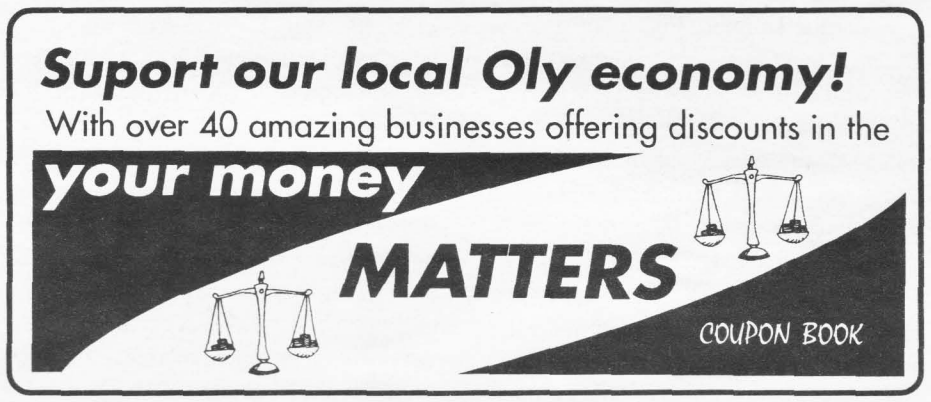
In this beautifully produced look at Afghanistan today, a surgeon and a war correspondent decide to join forces and set up a hospital in a country that has had to cope with various wars for the last twenty years. After the Russians, the Taliban took society firmly into their grasp. Houses and schools have been burnt down, sons killed on the battlefield and almost everybody is hungry, an Afghan woman explains from behind her veil, perforated only by a few air holes. Women are beaten up in the street if they are wearing sandals that show part of their legs, so everyone is terrified of breaking the extremely strict rules of the Taliban, another woman explains. Meanwhile, tanks have conquered the mountains, soldiers are trigger-happy and the rugged, stunning landscape is strewn with mines, which are stepped on every day by countless innocent victims. The new hospital tries to help all of these war victims, but it is banging its head against a brick wall. The Italian surgeon gets discouraged at times, because he knows that every day brings the same calamities: one after the other, people are brought in with crushed legs and skulls, and the situation is nowhere near ending.

Suggested Donation: $5 - 25 sliding scale

Media Island International, established in 1987, is a non-profit organization that is designed to provide both resources and networking assistance for individuals, organizations and movements that are workings on a regional, national and international level. We achieve this by providing a resource of contacts (people), a library that offers many non-corporate books, periodicals & reference materials for research and a distribution center that allows groups to make copies and fax documents to forward their issues. For more information on Media Island, visit www.mediaisland.org, call 352-8526 or stop by 816 Adams Street in Olympia.

"Women Rock" Makes Your Money Matter

Howard Rosenfeld



When I first saw the Your Money Matters Coupon Booklet at the Olympia Food Coop, I thought, here is something that embodied the slogan, "Think Globally, Act Locally."

In an effort to encourage Olympian consumers to spend their money in a way that builds and sustains strong independent economies, Women Rock Productions (WRP) has created a coupon book with discounts at local businesses. The book contains coupons for food & drink, services and other merchandise and contains a key at the front of the booklet which identifies businesses as locally-owned, as a small business, as a women-owned business, environmentally-friendly, cooperatively-run & owned, a fair trade business or queer-owned. Many businesses garner multiple designations when they qualify for it.

Merchants offering coupons in the book include Vic's Pizzeria, Kundalini, the Olympia Community Yoga Center, Avocado Tree Spa & Boutique, Chrysalis Gifts, and Second Use Building Materials. The booklet contains coupons for 49 different Olympia businesses, all of which are locally owned and operated.

You can pick up the Your Money Matters Coupon Booklet at various locations around Olympia including the Olympia Food Co-op, Coffee Plant, Kundalini, Metro, Avocado Tree, Traditions, Oly World News, Orca Books, Second Use, Proffitt's Cafe, Chrysalis, Rise and Shine Bakery and Dumpster Values.

The coupon book is great for anyone that shops in Olympia but especially for those that like to spend their money at locally-owned businesses.

Women Rock Productions is a business partnership that produces events and publications focused on empowering communities and women. They are dedicated to donating a percentage of proceeds from the events and publications that they produce to non-profit organizations.

Marie Poland, of WRP, sees the coupon book as a way to stay active in the community by working with and promoting local businesses.

"At Women Rock, we believe it's important to live in a unique non-homogenous community. Personally, I'd rather not live in 'Anywhere, USA,' where there are strip malls everywhere and the same huge corporate stores. Not to mention that many of these corporations spend millions on supporting the military industrial complex. If we want to empower our communities, we need to pay attention when we spend our money and spend it at locally owned businesses that support our economy here in Olympia."

The coupon book is especially welcome since Olympia recently learned that in nearby Lacey, Wal-Mart will be opening two of their huge box stores merely 5 miles apart from each other in an effort to drive local competition out of business.

Activists in Olympia have promoted keeping money in the community in the past when a group of people created the Sound Exchange program in 1996. This program, based on Ithica HOURS (www.ithicahours.org) program in Ithaca, NY, created its own currency and distributed the currency to encourage a barter -- like system whereby people could trade work-time for goods and services or also use the currency to buy goods and services.

The Sound Exchange program is still in operation in Olympia and if you want more information about it, call Gail Sullivan at 352-2428 or email her at gail@fertileground.org.

Diana Pisco of Women Rock feels strongly about the motivation behind this project. "We see this project as activism," Pisco explained. "Where we spend our money and who we give it to matters tremendously! At this time, when many of our 'rights' and civil liberties are being quickly dismantled under the guise of 'national security' - how we spend our money is one of the greatest powers we have as Americans. *Especially*, given the consumer-slave economic model we have constructed for ourselves in this country. If we give our money to Starbucks, it matters. And it matters just as much, if not more, if we give it to Kundalini. *Never underestimate the power of the purse!*"

(Democracy, continued)

world is the voice of the majority.

Megan: Do you have any advice for media activists?

Amy: To challenge the corporate media and those who try to be like them. To insist that they expand the debate to include those who truly disagree with war right now, and with the kind of responses that we're hearing in the wake of the attacks on the United States on September 11th. Because especially in broadcast, the airwaves are ours. It is the public airwaves, even when private corporations like NBC, CBS, and ABC are leasing them.

I think there's a very clear tendency that in times of war the media cheerleads around the government. It serves as the advanced troops for the military. And that's not what our role should be — we have to be a counter force. And in general, the media has to do their homework, and not hide behind these pseudo-polls that show us that everyone wants to go to war. They're simply not true. It is a misrepresentation of the facts. I don't think the majority of people in this country believe that the answer to the killing of innocent civilians is the killing of more innocent civilians.

Megan: I have one more question. You are a very prolific, stable, strong radical figure — What sustains you day in and day out in your work?

Amy: I am deeply inspired by the people I've covered over the years. The people of East Timor, who, in the face of almost a quarter of a century of oppression by the Indonesian military supported by the U.S. government, and in the face of a third of their population being wiped out, always believed that they would prevail, that they would know peace and independence. And now they will.

And covering the people of Haiti during the coup. Thousands of people killed. And they always believed that they could overthrow these illegitimate generals who had taken power in their country against Aristide. And they did ultimately throw out the coup-makers.

And also the people of this country that deeply believe in peace and justice. Those who stand up at military bases and face many years in prison, who protest at the School of the Americas. Those that take time out of their day to simply go to write to a Congress member, or challenge the media.

I'm inspired by all these people. And I think we're here for a short time on Earth, and that in any small way that we can, we have to make this a better place. Because the alternative is too gruesome. The alternative is, well, like what we saw on September 11th. Right now, these are the most serious of times. And we can determine whether or not other innocent people will die. That's why we have to work around the clock.

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